

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) ~~In a storage area network (SAN) of the type A system having a plurality of components including one or more digital data processors in communication with a network comprising one or more storage devices and one or more hosts via a switching fabric component, wherein application processes reside on the hosts, wherein the application processes configure and manage the hosts in which the application processes execute, the improvement~~ comprising:

a manager ~~executing on one of the digital data processors and in communication with the other SAN components~~ storage devices and hosts in the network[[,]]; and

~~one or more application processes residing on one or more components of the SAN for at least one of configuring and managing the components,~~

an interface process in communication with the manager, a switching fabric component, and the hosts ~~other SAN components~~, the interface process effecting execution of at least one process residing on the system including the manager data processor, at least one application process residing on the switching fabric component, and at least one application process residing on ~~another SAN component~~ at least one host.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim 1, the further ~~improvement~~ comprising

a graphical output device coupled to the interface process for displaying one or more graphical objects [[each]] representing ~~one of the~~ application processes on the hosts or the switching fabric component ~~SAN components, wherein~~

the interface process [[being]] is coupled to the graphical output device for effecting the display of the graphical objects on the graphical output device.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim [[3]] 2, ~~the further improvement~~ wherein the interface process responds to selection of one of the objects representing [[an]] one application process by effecting execution of the application process represented by that object.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim 4, ~~the further improvement wherein the manager maintains~~ further comprising:

a store containing information regarding one or more ~~components of the SAN~~ hosts and the switching fabric component and one or more application processes residing on selected hosts and the switching fabric component ~~ones of the SAN components~~.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim [[6]] 5, ~~the further improvement~~ wherein the interface process accesses the store, upon selection of [[a]] one graphical object representing one host or the switching fabric component ~~a SAN component~~, to identify at least one application process[, if any,] residing on [[that]] the host or the switching fabric component represented by the selected object ~~component~~.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim 1, wherein the application process is any of an executable application, a web-based browser application, a telnet session, or an SNMP application.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim 5, ~~the further improvement wherein the information on the hosts regarding a component~~ includes an identifier for ~~that component~~ the host and [[an]] application [[process, if any,]] processes residing on the host ~~that component~~.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~In the SAN~~ The system of claim 8, ~~the further improvement wherein at least one of the graphical objects representing one host~~ a SAN component provides a textual description of that component.

10-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A network, comprising:
at least one storage device;
at least one host, wherein application processes reside on the hosts, wherein the application processes configure and manage the hosts in which the application processes execute;
a manager system;
a switching fabric including switching fabric components enabling communication among the at least one storage device, the at least one host, and the manager system;
code executed by the manager system to perform operations, the operations comprising,
an interface process in communication with the manager, one switching fabric component, and the hosts, wherein the interface process effects execution of at least one process residing on the manager system, at least one application process residing on the switching fabric component, and at least one application process residing on at least one host.

22. (New) The network of claim 1, wherein the manager system further includes:
a graphical output device coupled to the interface process for displaying one or more graphical objects representing the application processes on the hosts or switching fabric component, wherein the interface process is coupled to the graphical output device for effecting the display of the graphical objects on the graphical output device.

23. (New) The network of claim 22, wherein the interface process responds to selection of one of the objects representing one application process by effecting execution of the application process represented by that object.

24. (New) A method, comprising:
using a manager to communicate with a network comprising one or more storage devices and one or more hosts via a switching fabric component, wherein application processes reside on the hosts, wherein the application processes configure and manage the hosts in which the application processes execute; and
using an interface process to communicate with the manager, a switching fabric component, and the hosts; and

using the interface process to effect execution of at least one process residing on the system including the manager, at least one application process residing on the switching fabric component, and at least one application process residing on at least one host.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
using the interface process to effect display of one or more graphical objects representing the application processes on the hosts or the switching fabric component

26. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:
selecting one of the objects representing one application process to cause the interface process to effect execution of the application process represented by that object.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising:
providing in a store information regarding one or more hosts and the switching fabric component and one or more application processes residing on selected hosts and the switching fabric component.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the information on the hosts includes an identifier for the host and application processes residing on the host.

29. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
selecting one graphical object representing one host or the switching fabric component to effect the interface process to access the store to identify at least one application process residing on the host or the switching fabric component represented by the selected object.

30. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the application process is any of an executable application, a web-based browser application, a telnet session, or an SNMP application.

31. (New) A program executed by a manager system in communication with a network comprising one or more storage devices and one or more hosts via a switching fabric

component, wherein application processes reside on the hosts and the switching fabric component, wherein the application processes configure and manage the hosts and the switching fabric component in which the application processes execute, comprising:

a manager communicating with the storage devices and hosts in the network; and
an interface process in communication with the manager, the switching fabric component, and the hosts, wherein the interface process effects execution of at least one process residing on the system including the manager, at least one application process residing on the switching fabric component, and at least one application process residing on at least one host.

32. (New) The program of claim 31, wherein the interface process is coupled to a graphical output device and further performs:

displaying one or more graphical objects on the graphical output device representing the application processes on the hosts or the switching fabric component.

33. (New) The program of claim 32, wherein the interface process responds to selection of one of the objects representing one application process by effecting execution of the application process represented by that object.

34. (New) The program of claim 33, wherein the program is executed to perform operations:

communicating with a store containing information regarding one or more hosts and the switching fabric component and one or more application processes residing on selected hosts and the switching fabric component.

35. (New) The program of claim 34, wherein the interface process accesses the store, upon selection of one graphical object representing one host or the switching fabric component, to identify at least one application process residing on the host or the switching fabric component represented by the selected object.

36. (New) The program of claim 34, wherein the information on the hosts includes an identifier for the host and application processes residing on the host.

37. (New) The program of claim 31, wherein the application process is any of an executable application, a web-based browser application, a telnet session, or an SNMP application.